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Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/938,366

Examiner

Bob A. Phunkulh

Applicant(s)

OLLIS ET AL.

Art Unit

2616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 11/07/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 7-25, 28-38, and renumbered as 1-31, respectively.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 20061208.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

**BOB PHUNKULH
PRIMARY EXAMINER**

DETAILED ACTION

Request for Continued Examination

The request filed on 11/07/2006 for a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 based on parent Application No. 09/938366 is acceptable and a RCE has been established. An action on the RCE follows.

This communication is in response to applicant's 11/07/2006 amendment(s)/response(s) in the application of **OLLIS et al.** for "**ARCHITECTURE FOR LINKING MULTIPLE INTERNET PROTOCOL TELEPHONY DEVICES HAVING A COMMON TELEPHONE NUMBER**" filed 08/24/2001. The amendment/response to the claims have been entered. No claims have been canceled. No claims have been added. Claims 1-2, 4-38 are now pending.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Lawrence T. Cullen on 12/8/2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

Art Unit: 2616

1. (Currently Amended) A method for connecting a plurality of devices which have a common telephone number and which are connected to a network, comprising the steps of:

looking up the telephone number in a table that associates the telephone number with a plurality of devices having an address, each device having a unique domain name;

establishing a connection with at least one of said devices;

establishing a bridge between that device and a secondary device, the second device having a different address than the first device and a common telephone number with the first device, whereby the common telephone number enables the first device and the second device to connect to a communication with another device without further connection,

wherein the step of looking up the telephone number in the table is performed by a call agent, the devices are connected to gateways, and the call agent connects a gateway, which establishes the connection with the first device.

2. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[4]] 1, wherein the gateway contacted by the call agent establishes a bridge to a second gateway, to which a second device is attached.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[5]] 1, wherein the first gateway mixes information from both at least one device attached to the first gateway and at least one device attached to the second gateway.

25. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for connecting a plurality of devices which have a common telephone number and which are connected to a network, comprising:

a call agent that associates the telephone number with a plurality of devices, each of which has a unique domain name;

a network for establishing a connection with at least one of said devices;

gateways to which the devices are connected; and

a bridge between that device and a secondary device, the second device having a different address than the first device and a common telephone number with the first device, whereby the common telephone number enables the first device and the second device to connect to a communication with another device without further connection,

wherein the call agent contacts a gateway, which establishes a connection with a first device.

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim ~~[[27]]~~ 25, wherein the gateway contacted by the call agent establishes a bridge to a second gateway, to which a second device is attached.

29. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim ~~[[28]]~~ 25, wherein the first gateway mixes information from both at least one device attached to the first gateway and at least one device attached to the second gateway.

38. (Currently Amended) A method for connecting a two devices which are associated with a common telephone number, comprising the steps of:

looking up the telephone number in a table that associates the telephone number with the domain names of at least one of the devices; each device having a unique domain name;

establishing a connection with that device;

establishing a secondary connection between that device and a secondary device, the secondary device having a different address than the first device and a common telephone number with the first device, whereby the common telephone number enables the first device and the second device to connect to a communication with another device without further connection.

wherein the step of looking up the telephone number in the table is performed by a call agent, the devices are connected to gateways, and the call agent connects a gateway, which establishes the connection with the first device.

Conclusion

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

The following address mail to be delivered by the United States Postal Service (USPS) only:

Mail Stop _____
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

or faxed to:

(571) 273-8300, (for formal communications intended for entry)

Or:

The following address mail to be delivered by other delivery services (Federal Express (Fed Ex), UPS, DHL, Laser, Action, Purolater, Hand Delivery, etc.) as follow:

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
220 20th Street South
Customer Window, Mail Stop _____
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03
Arlington, VA 22202.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Bob A. Phunkulh** whose telephone number is **(571)**

Art Unit: 2616

272-3083. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Tuesday from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. (first week of the bi-week) and Monday-Friday (for second week of the bi-week).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor **Wellington Chin**, can be reach on **(571) 272-3134**. The fax phone number for this group is **(571) 273-8300**.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Bob A. Phunkulh
Primary Examiner
TC 2600
Technology Division 2616
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